



ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

192~~2~~

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

GENTLEMEN,

Following the instructions of the Minister of Health, the report for the year is of a short character. Essential details are given regarding the health and environment of the population, but details that do not vary from year to year are again omitted.

VITAL STATISTICS.

For the County Council three Tables (A, B, and C) are prepared, the contents of which are included in this report. They contain all the essential facts bearing on the health and sanitary condition of the district. As usual I have included other Tables enlarging these details for the purpose of comparison.

Population.—The total population for the year is given as 23,220 by the Registrar General against 22,990 for 1921, an increase of 230. The increase for the previous year was 890. A glance at Table I., Column 2, will show the variations for the previous five years.

Birth Rate.—The rate for the year, 21·4, is again considerably less than the previous year, and less than 1920 by 10 per 1,000 of the population. The actual figures are for 1922 : 497 births (252 males and 245 females) ; for 1921 : 604 births ; and for 1920 : 698. Column 3, Table I. shows the figures for the past six years.

Illegitimate births were 10, against 14 for 1921.

The Births Notification Act works remarkably well, and in conjunction with the local Registrar we are able to keep an accurate account of this work. I have appended a list of the births notified each month and classified. Of course the figures do not quite correspond with the registered totals owing to period allowed for registration.

BIRTHS NOTIFIED FOR THE YEAR 1922.

					<i>Still-</i>	<i>Illegitimate.</i>		<i>Notified by</i>	
			<i>Total.</i>	<i>Living.</i>	<i>births.</i>	<i>Live.</i>	<i>Still.</i>	<i>Doctors.</i>	<i>Mid-wives.</i>
January	..	..	37	35	2	0	0	0	37
February	..	..	44	41	3	0	0	1	43
March	..	..	32	31	1	1	0	1	31
April	..	..	49	47	2	2	0	2	47
May	..	..	59	53	6	0	1	3	56
June	..	..	53	53	0	1	0	2	51
July..	..	..	44	41	3	1	0	2	42
August	..	..	42	42	0	2	0	6	36
September	..	..	47	45	2	0	0	4	43
October	..	..	34	32	2	0	0	2	32
November	..	..	43	42	1	0	0	1	42
December	..	..	45	45	0	0	0	1	44
Year's Total			.. 529	507	22	8	1	25	504

Mortality.—In Tables III. and IV. I have classified the deaths during the year as returned to me week by week by the local Registrar. The cause and age incidence is shown in Table III. for all ages, and in Table IV. Infant Mortality. Table IIIa. is a copy of the corrected return made by the Registrar General. The number of deaths registered in the district was 274. To this must be added the death of 46 persons usually resident in the district but dying outside. Against this there is a deduction of 4 deaths of non-

residents, who died within our district. The net number of deaths is therefore 316, giving a rate of 13·6 per 1,000 compared with 10·4 for 1921, and 13·3 for 1920. Table I. (Columns 12 and 13) shows the figures for the past six years.

The prevalence of Influenza during the first quarter of the year accounts very largely for the increase in the number of deaths over the year 1921. Whereas in the year under report there were 17 deaths from Influenza, 48 from Pneumonia, and 17 from Bronchitis, a total of 93, compared with a similar total of 43 for 1921, a difference of 50.

Table V. I have again added to show comparisons of our mortality from Infectious Diseases.

Infant Mortality.—The number of infant deaths for the year is 56 (actually registered). This, compared with 60 for the previous year, gives a higher death-rate, owing to the diminished number of births. The rate is 112, against 99·3 for 1921. The number dying from congenital causes, prematurity and debility, is excessively high, 34 out of a total of 56.

Mortality of Children under 5 Years.—In addition to the 56 dying during the first year of life, 29 others died before reaching the fifth year, giving a total of 85 deaths during that period of life. The total for 1921 was 84, and for 1920 was 111.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—The Health Visitor's report, is appended, showing the work of this Department for the year. No additional services have been undertaken owing to the expense and awaiting the full County scheme.

Infectious Diseases.—Table B of the County Schedule gives all particulars of the incidence of these diseases according to age, and Table II. repeats this while classifying the Ward incidence.

Tuberculosis.—This class of disease comes under the control of the County Tuberculosis Committee, with whose officers we are in close association. Weekly reports of all notifications are sent to the County Medical Officer of Health, and a duplicate to the Chief Tuberculosis Officer for the area. Sanitary investigations are promptly made on notifications of this disease by the medical practitioners, and the usual steps taken for the remedy of defects.

During the year 33 cases were notified. Of these 23 were of the respiratory type, and 10 of the other forms of Tuberculosis.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.—No changes have taken place during the year regarding Water Supply, Drainage, and Sewerage.

Closet Accommodation.—No steps have, as yet, been taken to convert our pail closets to fresh W.C.'s, owing, as I have pointed out before, to water supply and sewerage difficulties. All new property, however, will have fresh W.C.'s. The figures regarding the number of different types of closets are contained in Table C, and in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Sanitary Inspection.—Attached to this report is the Sanitary Inspector's report, all the facts of which are, however, contained in Table C.

Schools.—These are under the County Education Committee. They are, on the whole, in a satisfactory condition regarding sanitation and water supply. The closets are W.C.'s, with intermittent flushing, and the water supply is from our own sources. The accommodation is fully utilised still, and the district is waiting still for the County Education Authority to increase the accommodation by the building of the Central School arranged for.

Closure of the Schools during the first quarter of the year for three weeks was adopted owing to the prevalence of Influenza.

HOUSING.

(1). The supervision and administration connected to the question of the Housing of the people within the district has again engaged the attention of the Council during the year, although, perhaps not quite to the same extent as the previous year, owing to the Municipal Housing Scheme being well advanced.

The obstacles which presented themselves during the war, in the way of non-erection of new houses, lack of carrying out repairs, high cost of material, shortage of labour, coupled with the ever present risk of subsidence, and consequent damage to existing houses, do not seem to have sufficiently disappeared, so as to induce private enterprise to embark on any large scale with new property.

As regards existing property where defects are reported, I think the speed at which repairs are carried out could, without undue hardship, be

accelerated, seeing that the cost of material has fallen considerably, and that the shortage of labour is now a thing of the past.

The time has not yet arrived for carrying out the recommendations contained in the report on the Survey of Housing Needs, respecting insanitary houses, and nothing has been done save the remedying of minor defects in this class of property.

The dwelling houses in the district now number 4,147, of which 3,965 are of the working class type.

This allows an average of 5·6 persons per house.

(2). *Population*.—In the year 1911 the population consisted of 21,543 persons, and at mid-year, 1914, these figures had been increased to 22,687. During the war period, 1914 to 1918, the population gradually declined, and at the end of 1918 the figures were 20,457, or a reduction of 2,230 persons. After this time the population steadily increased, and at the end of 1921 this loss had been restored, together with an additional 303 persons, making a population for the district in 1921 of 22,990 persons.

For the year 1922 the Registrar General estimates a population of 23,220 persons, thus this is a further increase of 230 over the figures for 1921, and 1,677 above the census of 1911.

No development of new industry or addition to existing industries has taken place during the year, which would interfere with the population in any way.

(3). (a) *Extent of Shortage of Houses*.—The position under this heading has been steadily improved during the year by the addition to the district of forty-eight new houses. The Council's Housing Scheme is credited with forty out of this number, the remaining eight having been built by private owners. From these figures it will be observed that there is ample scope for extended activities on the part of private enterprise, as conditions become more normal, and this will be necessary before we can expect to deal with the insanitary and unfit houses, 200 of which were reported to you in 1919 as being unfit for human habitation.

During the year under review two dwelling houses have been demolished leaving a net increase of 46 houses for the year, and taking the average of 5·6 per house, we find that 257 persons have been provided with accommodation, whilst the estimated increase in population is 230.

(b) *Measures Taken to Meet the Shortage.*—Consideration was given to this question in 1919, when two schemes providing for 200 houses were submitted to you and approved. Since that time the first scheme providing for 80 houses has been completed. The second scheme, however, has been left in abeyance till such time you think it desirable to proceed with.

II. *Overcrowding*: (1) *Extent.*—We have had no cases reported under this heading during the year, and although there may be isolated cases which do not come under our notice, I believe that in the majority of the houses with large numbers of persons, there is the average air space for the occupants residing therein.

(2) *Causes.*—The causes are fairly well known to you. While there may be excess of lodgers in some premises, by far the greater number of these houses contain their own family with grown up sons and daughters who prefer to stay in the home, even after marriage.

(3) *Measures Taken.*—When this class of nuisance does come under observation of the Health Department, the premises are visited and inspected by your Sanitary Officers. Instructions are given as to the best methods to adopt in order to secure a better distribution of the occupants, and, if necessary, the removal of excess persons.

III. *Fitness of Houses.*—(1) (a) Taking the house to house inspections as a basis for the information under this heading, the records show the general fitness and sanitary condition to be up to the average.

(b) The character of defects usually consist of cracked walls, defective roofs, floors, windows and plasterwork.

(2) Action taken as regards unfit houses under (a) Public Health Acts, (b) The Housing Acts: Notice of Defects served on owners.

IV. *Unhealthy Areas. Housing Act, 1890, Part I. and II.*—(1) The situation under this heading remains the same as last year, and while some of these areas require dealing with as early as possible, it has not been practicable up to the present time to apply the provisions of the above Acts.

Although the housing scheme provided an additional forty houses during the year, these were occupied as soon as they were passed for occupation, and there are no empty houses at the present time.

(2) The same applies with reference to my report of the housing needs in 1919.

(3) We have only received the ordinary type of complaint during the year, that is, cracked walls, defective roofs, spouts and floors.

V. *Bye-laws relating to Houses, Houses-let-in-lodgings, &c.*—No alteration or revision of the bye-laws controlling the above classes of premises has taken place as yet.

General and Miscellaneous.—Improvements have been carried out in portions of Downall Green Road, Rectory Road, Low Bank Road, Whitledge Green and adjoining the Grammar School by flagging of the footpaths, which, in addition to draining away the surface water, greatly minimises the treading of sludge into the adjoining houses, which must add to the comfort of the tenants.

The details regarding Housing statistics are fully given in Table C, under heading 9, and this also includes some important sanitary requirements of the district.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to my colleagues in the Sanitary Department, and to the Clerk and his Staff, for their help, as well as to the Surveyor's Staff.

I remain,

Yours obediently,

HY. WINSTANLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1922 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Name of District, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Un- corrected Number.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.	Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			At all Ages. Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Rate.
			Number.	Rate.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age. Number.			Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1917.....	21,101	529	532	22.6	225	10.6	2	39	53	99	262	12.4
1918.....	20,457	554	555	24.2	331	16.7	7	38	59	106	362	17.6
1919.....	21,263	510	511	23.07	242	11.3	6	47	53	103.7	285	13.4
1920.....	22,110	694	698	31.5	272	12.3	6	29	77	110.9	295	13.3
1921.....	22,990	601	604	26.2	208	9.0	5	38	60	99.3	241	10.4

∞

1922.....	23,220	495	*497	21.4	274	11.7	4	46	56	112	†316	13.6
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*Males 252, Females 245.

†Males 179, Females 137.
Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 6,251.

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1922.

Name of District, Ashton-in-Makerfield.																			
At all Ages.	Under 1.		1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 & Upwards.	C.	N.	S.	E.	W.	Removed to Hospital.
Diphtheria	53	-	-	3	7	6	25	10	-	1	-	1	-	27	6	3	3	14	44
Scarlet Fever	54	-	1	5	7	5	22	8	2	3	-	1	-	12	9	7	16	10	43
Erysipelas	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	2	2	-
Eutene	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Ophthalmia	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	76	9	10	7	5	2	11	4	3	11	6	6	2	30	9	4	18	15	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pulmonary T.B.—																			
Males	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	2	4	-	7	1	-	2	3	-
Females	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	4	-	-	-	4	2	-	4	-	-
Other Forms T.B.—																			
Males	8	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	1	3	-	-	-	2	-	2	3	1	-
Females	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Total	226	10	11	17	19	16	60	25	14	29	9	13	3	84	28	16	51	47	90

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1922.

Name of District, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District											Total Deaths whether 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents' in Institutions 65 and in the District. Upwards.
CAUSES OF DEATH.											
All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
1											
All Causes—Certified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Chicken Pox	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles	10	3	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria and Croup	4	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	2	
Influenza	17	1	—	—	2	2	4	5	3	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Phthisis (Pul. Tuberculosis)	14	—	—	—	2	5	3	4	—	—	
Tuberculous Meningitis	4	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	
Cancer, malignant disease	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	10	—	
Rheumatic Fever	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	
Meningitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Organic Heart Disease	17	—	—	—	1	1	3	5	7	—	

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1922.

Name of District, Ashton-in-Makerfield.										
CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.						Total Deaths whether Residents or Non-Residents.			
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	In Institutions in the District.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Bronchitis.....	26	3	—	—	—	—	1	4	18	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	53	9	12	2	4	5	6	8	7	1
Other Diseases of Resp. Organs..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	2	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Girrhosis of Liver	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alcoholism	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ..	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Constitutional Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	37	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Violent Deaths, including Suicide	9	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	2	—
Suicide	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Defined Diseases	66	—	—	—	1	4	5	22	34	—
Diseases ill-defined or unknown..	6	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	3	—
Total	314	57	17	11	17	24	28	71	89	—

TABLE IIIA.

33-03. CIVILIANS ONLY. M. 13.
CAUSES OF DEATH IN ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD U.D. 1923.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
ALL CAUSES	179	137
1. Enteric fever	—	—
2. Small-pox	—	—
3. Mesales	3	7
4. Scarlet fever	2	1
5. Whooping cough	2	—
6. Diphtheria	1	3
7. Influenza	11	6
8. Encephalitis lethargica	—	—
9. Meningococcal meningitis	1	—
10. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	9	5
11. Other tuberculous diseases	6	4
12. Cancer, malignant disease	8	11
13. Rheumatic fever	2	3
14. Diabetes	1	2
15. Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	14	11
16. Heart disease	10	8
17. Arterio-sclerosis	—	—
18. Bronchitis	17	11
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	25	23
20. Other respiratory diseases	4	—
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1
22. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	2
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis	1	1
24. Cirrhosis of liver	1	—
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	3	4
26. Puerperal sepsis	—	—
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	—	2
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	25	9
29. Suicide	1	—
30. Other deaths from violence	7	2
31. Other defined diseases	23	21
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	—
Special Causes (included above)—		
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—		
Total	37	19
Illegitimate	1	1
TOTAL BIRTHS	252	245
Legitimate	246	241
Illegitimate	6	4
POPULATION	23,220	

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1922.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Name of District, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes—Certified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Bronchitis	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	3	1	9
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Congenital Malformations	—	1	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	4
Premature Birth	9	2	—	—	11	2	—	—	—	13
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	9	2	4	—	15	3	1	1	—	20
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	18	5	6	1	30	9	8	4	6	57

TABLE V.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1922.

(Provisional figures. Populations estimated to the middle of 1921 have been used for the purposes of this Table.
The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.							Rate per 1,000 Births.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small- pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diph- theria.	Influenza. Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years). 1 year).	Total Deaths (under 2 years). 1 year).
England and Wales	20.6	12.9	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.04	0.16	0.11	0.54	0.44	6.2 77
<hr/>											
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	21.4	13.0	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.05	0.19	0.13	0.56	0.41	7.6 82
155 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000)	20.5	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.10	0.03	0.15	0.09	0.58	0.35	5.6 75
London	21.0	13.4	0.01	0.00	0.35	0.07	0.25	0.25	0.57	0.45	7.1 74
Ashton-in-Makerfield	21.4	13.6	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.08	0.08	0.17	0.73	0.38	4.0 112

HEALTH VISITOR'S REPORT.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

COUNCIL OFFICES,

February, 1923.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

SIR,

I beg to submit to you the following for the year 1922 :—

Births Notified .. Live births, 507 ; Still-births, 22. Total, 529.

Illegitimate Births .. Live births, 8 ; Still-births, 1. Total 9.

Notified by doctors, 25.

Notified by midwives, 504.

Home Visits First visits to infants, 452.

Re-visits under 1 year of age, 1,742.

Re-visits over 1 year and under 5 years of age,
914.

Other Visits Visits to school children, 39.

Re-visits to school children, 198.

Special visits *re* sanitary condition and other matters,
90.

Still-births visited, 18.

Ophthalmia Notified, 1 ; Visits for treatment, 10. Eyes are
Neonatorum now in a satisfactory condition.

Workshops visited where women only are employed, 7.

Sanitary defects were reported to the Sanitary Inspector.

Infant Mortality .. 56 + 1 dying in Billinge Hospital. Legitimate

Investigations .. infants, 54 ; Illegitimate infants, 2.

<i>Ages.</i>	<i>Methods of Feeding.</i>
4 less than 1 day.	15 no feeding.
13 „ 1 week.	23 wholly breast fed.
13 „ 1 month.	12 mixed feeding.
6 „ 1 month.	6 wholly artificially fed.
20 over 1 month and less than 1 year.	
—	—
56	56
—	—

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

No. of times Centre was opened	43
No. of attendances	1393 1393 1/2
New infants joining	139
Average No. of attendances	39.8

In addition to the usual work of the Clinic, a Lecture is given every fortnight to the mothers, on subjects relating to the welfare of the infant and child, for which a separate class room is now in use.

I should like to thank the Ladies' Committee and all voluntary workers for help given during the past year.

During the year 239 garments have been supplied to the mothers in addition to the 71 parcels of clothing and toys, distributed at the Mothers Tea Party, held on 25th January, 1923.

From the funds of the Clinic 11 grants were made for travelling expenses and other requirements to children attending hospital.

Supplies of Food.

Free milk, 774lb., costing £72 7s. 6d.

Sold, cost price, 4,793lb. value, £454 15s. 8d.

Free "Virol" was given in necessitous cases.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

L. CRAGG,

Health Visitor.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

COUNCIL OFFICES,

ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

March, 1923.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

SIR,

I beg to submit the following report showing the work dealt with during the year ending 31st December, 1922 :—

Houses and premises inspected and visited <i>re</i> nuisances and							
complaints .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	2160
Nuisances discovered .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1460
„ abated .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	885
Notices issued (preliminary) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	327
„ (statutory) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	126
Re-visits to nuisances .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	2348
Other visits made .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1358
Nuisances remaining on books, 31st December, 1922 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	575

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Defective	and damp walls .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	88
„	roofs and spouts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	292
„	floors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	55
„	slopstones .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	11
„	waste pipes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	34
„	wall and ceiling plaster .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	137
„	firegrates .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	38
„	windows and doors .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	101
„	staircases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
„	washing boilers .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	12
„	paving in yards .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	67
„	setting around gullies .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	26
„	W.C. flushing cisterns .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	9

Defective ventilating pipes	5
„ pail and ashpit doors	75
„ chimney stacks	5
„ closet roofs, floors and doors	38
„ pail places	8
Foul W.C. pans	3
Choked and defective drains and gulleys	111
Houses or parts requiring cleansing	137
Downspouts requiring disconnecting	1
Gullies requiring covers	4
Delapidated closets and ashpits	18
„ yard walls and gates	10
Want of pail and ashpit doors	98
„ closet doors	7
„ eaves gutters	17
„ waste pipes	4
„ dustbins	11
Foul condition of premises	1
Workshops requiring limewashing	10
Cowsheds	9
„ with defective paving	1
„ „ drainage	5
„ overcrowded	1
Miscellaneous	10

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There is one slaughter-house on the register, and this has only been in use occasionally during the year. Periodical inspections have been made to these premises.

FOOD CONDEMNED.

The undermentioned food has been condemned as being unfit for human consumption :—

	<i>Condemned.</i>	<i>Part passed and part condemned.</i>
Bullock Liver	1	—
Heifer Carcase	150lb.	1
Other Meat	82lb.	—

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACTS, 1909—1919,

Number of	houses inspected	..	..	..	..	157
„	defects discovered	..	..	..	..	539
„	damp and defective walls	..	..	..	..	38
„	defective roofs and spouts	..	..	..	..	102
„	„ floors	..	..	..	..	22
„	„ slopstones	..	..	..	..	5
„	„ waste pipes	..	..	..	..	16
„	„ wall and ceiling plaster	..	..	..	..	54
„	„ windows and doors	..	..	..	..	42
„	„ firegrates	..	..	..	..	18
„	„ washing boilers	..	..	..	..	3
„	„ paving in yards	..	..	..	..	35
„	„ setting around gullies	..	..	..	..	13
„	„ ventilating pipes	..	..	..	..	3
„	„ pail and ashpit doors	..	..	..	..	24
„	„ closet roofs, floors and doors	..	..	..	..	17
„	„ houses or parts requiring cleansing	..	..	..	..	72
„	choked and defective drains and gullies	..	..	..	..	1
„	dilapidated closets and ashpits	..	..	..	..	1
„	„ yard walls and gates	..	..	..	..	5
„	gullies requiring covers	..	..	..	..	1
Want of	pail and ashpit doors	..	..	..	..	53
„	closet doors	..	..	..	..	1
„	eaves gutters	..	..	..	..	10
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	3

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

Number of Factories and Workshops on Register 112

			<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Prosecutions.</i>
Factories..	..	..	31	1	Nil.
Workshops	..	..	57	5	Nil.
Workplaces	..	..	24	Nil.	Nil.
			112	6	Nil.

DEFECTS FOUND.

	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Want of cleanliness	10	—
Other defects	9	—

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Dressmakers and milliners	11
Tailors	3
Bakers and confectioners	30
Painters and plumbers	4
Joiners and builders	7
Shoeing smiths	2
Wheelwright	1
Cooper	1
Saddler	1
Motor and cycle repairers	4
Lock and hinge manufacturers	13
Laundries	2
Printer	1
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	2
Gasworks	1
Boot, shoe and clog manufacturers	18
Cabinet makers	2
Monumental mason	1
Ice cream manufacturer	1
Mineral water manufacturers	3
File cutters	2
Tool sharpener	1
Engineering works	1

OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories	Nil.
Notified by H.M. Inspector	3
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE (PREVENTION) ACT.

No. of houses disinfected	218
„ beds disinfected	106
„ other articles disinfected	677

No. of houses or parts cleansed after infectious disease ..	12
„ visits to houses <i>re</i> infectious disease.. ..	144
„ „ <i>re</i> cleansing and limewashing ..	42

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER.

The dairies, cowsheds, and milk-shops have been inspected, and the following are the details of the inspections:—

No. of cowsheds on register	41
„ dairies on register	5
„ milkshops on register	1
„ visits paid	94

DEFECTS DISCOVERED.

Defective paving.. .. .	1
„ drainage	5
Requiring limewashing	9
Overcrowded	1

SHOPS ACTS.

No. of shops on register	410
„ visits to shops (day)	518
„ „ (night)	78
Caution for not exhibiting Closing Notice	24
Cautioned for not exhibiting form (Assistants' Half-holiday)	10
Cautioned for selling after closing hours	37

DAVID GAMBLE,

Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE A.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 6,249.	Number of families or separate occupiers (1921),
Population (1922), 22,489.	Rateable value, £120,453.
Number of inhabited houses (1921), 4,098.	Sum represented by a penny rate, £408.

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1922.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Births—Legitimate	487	246	241
Illegitimate	10	6	4
Deaths	316	179	137

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth—From sepsis, 0.

From other causes, 2.

Deaths of infants under one year of age—Total, 56; Legitimate, 54; Illegitimate, 2.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 10; Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 2; Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 2.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment—Nil.

	RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.			Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births
	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	
Mean of 10 years 1912-1921	27.2	14.1	0.72	116
1921	26.2	10.4	0.82	99
1922	21.4	13.6	0.60	112
<i>Increase or Decrease in 1922 on—</i>				
<i>Ten Years' Average</i>	—5.8	—0.5	—0.12	—4
<i>Previous Year</i>	—4.8	+3.2	—0.22	+13

TABLE B.—Continued.

(1) Specify the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths :—Equal.

(2) Add a note as to the efficiency of notification of tuberculosis in the district, and the action taken (if any) including particulars of any proceedings taken in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify :—Very satisfactory.

State whether any of these diseases are compulsorily notifiable in your district. If so, which, and for what period ? No.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number Notified.	Cases.		Treated.		Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	In Hospital.	In Hospital.	At Home.				
1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Specify any causes of sickness and invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the district during the year. (This should include information obtained from local general practitioners) :—Nil.

No. of times School Closure adopted for—

Scarlet Fever, Nil ; Whooping Cough, Nil ; Diphtheria, Nil ; Chicken-pox, Nil ; Measles, Nil ; Influenza, Once.
Any other diseases (specify same), Nil.

No. of Reports made under Section 14 (4) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1922 :—Nil.

(Signed) HY. WINSTANLEY,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

April 5th, 1923.

TABLE C.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

5.—SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home. Arrangements in the district for— (a) General Nursing. (b) For Infectious Diseases, <i>e.g.</i> , Measles, &c.	“Linen and Woollen Trust” Nursing Committee provide two District Nurses, with provision where considered necessary by Medical Officer of Health for diverting one or both for nursing Measles.
Midwives.—Is any midwife employed by or as- sisted by the <i>Local Authority</i> ? Number of midwives on the County Council Register, 31-12-1922. Any comments as to the sufficiency or other- wise of the midwifery service ?	No. No. on Register, 12. No. actually practising, 12. More than adequate.
What action has been taken by the Council respecting Child Welfare Work ? Has a local Child Welfare Centre been estab- lished ? If so, where ? Give days and time open.	Whole-time Health Visitor, with special qualification. Yes. The Congregational Class-rooms, Gerard Street. On Thursdays, 2 to 4 o'clock.
Have any of the following been provided in your district :— Day Nursery. Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children. School Clinic. Tuberculosis Clinic. Venereal Diseases Clinic.	Give name, situation, nature of accommodation, and by whom provided. No. No. No. Under the County Scheme. Ditto.

TABLE C.—Continued.

Has any local scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for Infants?	Yes.
Is there a District Nursing Association in the District?	Yes. How many District Nurses employed? Two.
If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the Association in respect of Child Welfare Work?	Yes. The Nurses assist in the Child Welfare Centre.
If no such arrangement exists, does the Association voluntarily undertake Child Welfare Work?	—
Does the Association undertake— (a) Midwifery Cases? (b) Monthly Nursing?	No. No.
Hospital Accommodation provided or available :— For Small-pox, Yes. Temporary buildings. For other Infectious Diseases, Yes. Joint or otherwise, Not joint. No. of Beds available for <i>your District</i> : For Small-pox, 8. For other Infectious Diseases, 40. Is there any Hospital Accommodation in the district for: (a) Maternity Cases, No; (b) Children, No; (c) Tuberculosis, No. Give postal address of Union Infirmary or other Public Institution in District—Nil. Disinfection :— No. of Houses disinfected, 218. Method (state disinfectant used): Sulphur and Formalide. Are Houses disinfected after: (a) Phthisis? Yes. (b) Measles? No.	
*Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise), Steam. No. of Articles disinfected, 783. Where is Apparatus situated? The Hospital, Bryn Road. *If Apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, &c., or Patients not removed to the Hospital? Yes.	
Ambulance facilities :— (a) For Infectious Cases: One horse ambulance. (b) For Non-infectious and Accident Cases: One horse ambulance.	

TABLE C.—*Continued.*
 6.—LABORATORY WORK.
 Bacteriological Examinations. No. of Specimens examined :—
 Blood, 3; Sputum, 2; Milk, Nil; Throat Swabs, 2; Swabs for Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Nil; Others, Nil.
 Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910. Is a supply of Anti-toxin kept *within* the district? Yes. If so, where? Hospital.
 Amount used during 1922, 178,000 units. Other Sera or Vaccines used, Nil.

7.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.	
Tabular Summary of the work of the Sanitary Department :—	
Source of Water Supply—	Council's own Reservoirs, with a daily supply of 100,000 gallons from Liverpool's Rivington Reservoirs.
What is its condition ?	Fairly satisfactory.
Possibilities of contamination ?	Slight.
Any insufficiency, and where ?	Only in time of drought, in South and West Wards.
Nature of extensions (if any) during the year?	Nil.
Are Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily for whole of district ?	Yes.
How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses) ?	Sanitary Authority.
Are Motor Vehicles used ?	One motor vehicle.
If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night ?	No privy middens.
How is the Refuse disposed of ?	Deposited at tips.
Has a Destructor been provided ?	No.
Sewage Disposal Works—	Chemical and bacterial.
Method of Treatment ?	
What is the character of the Drainage System ? Any developments during year ?	Satisfactory. No developments.
Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system.	Nil.
Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, &c.	As required.

TABLE C.—Continued.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams.	Nil.
Canal Boats : Number Inspected.	Nil. Number of Infringements of Acts ? Nil.
What is the condition of the Bakehouses ?	Good. Number, 30.
What is the condition of the Slaughter-houses ?	Good ; only used occasionally. No. Registered, 1. No. Licenced, Nil. Has a Public Abattoir been provided ? No.
What is the condition of Lodging-houses ?	Number, Nil. Are they Registered ? None.
What is the condition of Workshops and Work-places ?	Good.
What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools ?	Satisfactory, on the whole.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected ?	Yes. What is their condition ? Fair.
Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B. ? Give date.	Yes. 15-8-07. Are they enforced ? Yes.
Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow.	(a) Where cows are habitually grazed, Nil. Where cows are <i>not</i> habitually grazed, 800 cubic feet.
Cowkeepers.	Total No. of Cowkeepers, 41. No. on Register, 41. No. of Inspections during year, 94.
Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers).	Total No. of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors, 6 ; No. on Register, 6 (other than Cowkeepers).
Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows ? Give particulars.	Veterinary Surgeon can be obtained if considered necessary.
Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk.	Nil.

TABLE C.—Continued.

<p>Inspection of Food— Action taken in respect of places where food is prepared.</p> <p>Any food poisoning? Action taken.</p> <p>Amount of food condemned or surrendered as unfit for human consumption—</p> <p>(a) Tuberculous carcasses and parts.</p> <p>(b) Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (<i>other than (a) above</i>).</p> <p>(c) Other foodstuffs.</p> <p>No. of Legal Proceedings and result</p>	<p>Places inspected at intervals.</p> <p>Nil.</p> <p>State approximately the weight of carcasses and of parts—</p> <p>(a) Part of carcass (150lbs.).</p> <p>(b) One liver, and 82lbs. of other meat.</p> <p>(c) Nil.</p> <p>Nil.</p>
<p>Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Milk and Cream Regulations— Action taken by Local Authority (if any).</p>	<p>Samples taken by Police.</p>
<p>Notices Served—Nuisances.</p>	<p>No. of Notices served: Informal, 327; Statutory, 126.</p> <p>No. of Nuisances abated, 885.</p> <p>No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result, Nil.</p>
<p>Closets and Ashpits.</p>	<p>Privy Middens: No. of Middens, Nil; No. of Closets attached to these Middens, Nil.</p> <p>No. of Pail Closets, 3,746. No. of Dry Ashpits (<i>including Middens</i>), 2,948.</p> <p>No. of Fresh Water Closets, 601. No. of Portable Receptacles for refuse, 231.</p> <p>No. of Waste Water Closets, 25.</p> <p>No. of Privy Closets converted during 1922: To Fresh W.C.'s, Nil; to Waste W.C.'s, Nil; to Pails, etc., Nil.</p> <p>No. of Pail Closets converted to: Fresh W.C.'s, 2; Waste W.C.'s, Nil.</p> <p>No. of Waste W.C.'s converted to Fresh W.C.'s, Nil.</p> <p>Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion? No. If so, how much? Nil.</p> <p>What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for <i>new</i> property? Fresh W.C.'s.</p>

TABLE C.—Continued.

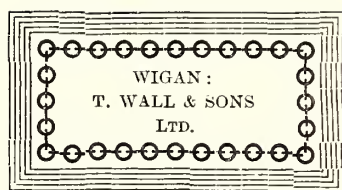
Smoke Nuisance.	No. of observations, Nil. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result, Nil. What is the limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour? Nil.
Has the Authority adopted—	“The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890,” Yes. “The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907,” Yes. “The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890,” Yes. Any other adoptive Act, Nil.
8.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.	
Medical Officer of Health, Hy. Winstanley.	Salary (including Bonus) as M.O.H., 31-12-1922, £ 200
Is he a whole-time Officer? <i>No</i>	
Sanitary Inspector, David Gamble.	Salary (including Bonus) as Inspector, 31-12-1922, £333.
Is he a whole-time Officer? Yes.	If not, what other appointments does he hold? None.
Assistant Sanitary Inspector, Thomas Whittier.	Salary (including Bonus), 31-12-1922, £253.
Any other Public Health Officers, such as Health Visitors and Special Nurses; if any, give names, salaries, qualifications, and offices held: Health Visitor, Lily Cragg, C.M.B., Trained Nurse, Health Certificate, and Maternity and Child Welfare Certificate.	<i>Salary 1200</i>
9.—HOUSING.	
No. of new houses erected during the year:—	
(a) By private enterprise	8
(b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme	40
No. of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme	
<i>Unfit Dwelling-houses:—</i>	
Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,617
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910..	157
(3) Have the particulars of these inspections been fully recorded as specified in the Regulations? ..	Yes
(4) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	
(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3)) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	361

TABLE C.—Continued.

<i>Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices—</i>		
No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	.. .. .	162
<i>Action under Statutory Powers—</i>		
A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919—		
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	.. .. .	28
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—		
(a) By owners	.. .. .	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	.. .. .	Nil.
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners or of intention to close	.. .. .	Nil.
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—		
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	.. .. .	98
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—		
(a) By owners	.. .. .	52
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	.. .. .	Nil.
C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909—		
(1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	.. .. .	Nil.
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	.. .. .	Nil.
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	.. .. .	Nil.
(4) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	.. .. .	Nil.
(5) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	.. .. .	Nil.
D.—No. of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, &c.	.. .. .	Nil.
Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1922.		
Chief Sanitary Requirements of District.	Nil. Making up back streets. Conversion of pail closets to fresh W.C.'s. Elimination of ashpits and substitution by ashbins.	

(Signed) H.Y. WINSTANLEY,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

April 5th, 1923.



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